

Sir John's distinguished career in Great Britain's Foreign Service includes representing the British Government in Moscow, Rawalpindi, Brussels, and most recently, in Washington, DC. As the new Permanent Under Secretary of State, he will direct the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in accomplishing its mission "to promote the national interests of the United Kingdom and to contribute to a strong world community."

Sir John and his accomplished wife, Lady Elizabeth, have faced many challenges during their tenure in Washington, DC. They have met each challenge with a grace, skill, and diplomacy that few possess. These accomplishments are the reasons for his promotion to even more responsibility not only to the British people, but to the people of the world. I have mixed feelings upon his departure because although I am happy that he is finally able to return home to such a prestigious post, Washington is losing two of their greatest dignitaries with their departure. Please join me in recognizing Sir John's contributions to the relationship between our two nations, and wish he and Lady Elizabeth Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR JASON HU

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join many colleagues in paying tribute to Ambassador Jason Hu, who is leaving Washington to return to Taipei. For the last 15 months, Ambassador Hu has very ably served as the Republic of China's representative in Washington. While there have been many issues, both highly significant and pro forma, between Washington and Taipei, Ambassador Hu has played a positive role in reducing differences between our two countries.

Ambassador Hu is a first class diplomat. In his outgoing and warm manner he has helped us greatly in understanding Taiwan as a democratic nation with a strong commitment to a free-market economy. He has also earned the support, confidence, and respect of President Lee Teng-hui, who has given Ambassador Hu a new assignment as the Republic of China's Foreign Minister.

Ambassador Hu's new responsibilities will place him in the forefront of the continuing diplomatic, political, and economic development of Taiwan. Ambassador Hu's experience in Washington will ensure that he will continue to be a trusted friend of the United States and to all nations that maintain official or unofficial ties to Taiwan.

Congratulations, Ambassador Hu. Please convey my best wishes to the people of Taiwan on their forthcoming National Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, my previous submission to record how I would have voted on

rollcall Nos. 403–415, when printed in the Record, did not include my stated position on rollcall Nos. 403 and 404. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on both 403 and 404.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE JUSTICE AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2287) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Norton amendment.

The ban on Federal funds for abortions for women in prison is one more step in a long line of rollbacks on women's reproductive freedoms.

The Norton amendment seeks to correct one of the more shameful attacks on American women.

Despite clear legal authority establishing the right of American women to choose abortion as a viable health option, many women prisoners are denied equal access to choose whether or not to terminate their pregnancies.

Federal prisoners must rely on the Bureau of Prisons for all for their health care, yet without this amendment women will be prevented from seeking needed reproductive health care.

Prisoners have a constitutional right to health care. Congress should not interfere with this right.

It is too easy to attack women inmates, women who are often poor, uneducated, isolated, and beaten down. Women who are often victims of physical or sexual abuse.

Most women prisoners are poor when they enter prison, and cannot rely on anyone for financial assistance.

These women already face limited prenatal care, isolation from family and friends, a bleak future, and the certain loss of custody of the infant.

The ban on reproductive health services for women in prison closes off their only opportunity to receive much needed care, it denies them their constitutional rights, but most importantly, it denies them their dignity.

We must stop this assault on women's right to choose. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support the Norton amendment.

DEDICATION OF THE LAWRENCE H. COOKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this month the people of Sullivan County, NY, bestowed a

deserving honor on a revered man who has selflessly served all of our best interests throughout his life. In renaming the Sullivan County Courthouse after Judge Lawrence H. Cooke, the people of Sullivan County take pride in the accomplishments of its native son. Judge Cooke has nobly exemplified what being a public servant means.

I had the privilege of attending this notable ceremony. Despite being a cold, blustery day, there was a genuine warmth that came from the 600 audience members who participated in honoring their esteemed colleague, friend, and neighbor, including: Congressman HINCHEY, State assemblyman Jake Gunther, Monticello mayor Jim Kenny, Sullivan County legislators Robert Kunis and Rodney Gaebel, Albany Law School professor Vincent Bonaventure, Sullivan County historian Joan Conway, and the Reverends Robert H. Pinto and Robert Ginel. Among the distinguished members of the judiciary who were present included: New York State Court of Appeals Chief Justice Honorable Judith Kaye, Supreme Court Judges William Richardson (Hawaii) and Anthony Kane (Sullivan County).

The generous ovations bestowed upon Judge Cooke, truly symbolized how important, valued, and beloved a public figure he has become over the years.

In meritoriously serving the people of Sullivan County and New York State, Judge Cooke built a legacy of compassion and concern. The extent of his outstanding judicial career is a tribute in itself to Judge Cooke's outstanding legal, philosophical, and ethical character. Starting his public career as a town supervisor, Judge Cooke was subsequently elected to the county court and thereafter was elected to the Supreme Court, and the appellate division, and finally was selected chief judge of the Court of Appeals of New York State—the highest judicial position in New York State. Judge Cooke duly deserves the honors and accolades given by the people of his beloved Sullivan County.

Andrew Jackson said in 1796: "I am of the opinion that a good judiciary lends much to the dignity of a state and the happiness of the people." Two centuries later, Judge Lawrence H. Cooke personifies what Andrew Jackson proclaimed.

I am honored to have known and worked with Judge Cooke and I was pleased to have joined in with the people of Sullivan County and from throughout the State in celebrating the career of this great public servant.

As Judge Cooke stated: "While the name of the courthouse has changed its title, its purpose in serving the people remains the same." It is a place of justice, and, as Daniel Webster proclaimed, justice "is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together."

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Judge Lawrence H. Cooke, and in wishing him and his wife, Alice Cooke, good health and happiness in retirement.